The

WORKING WOMAN

The Voice of Women Workers

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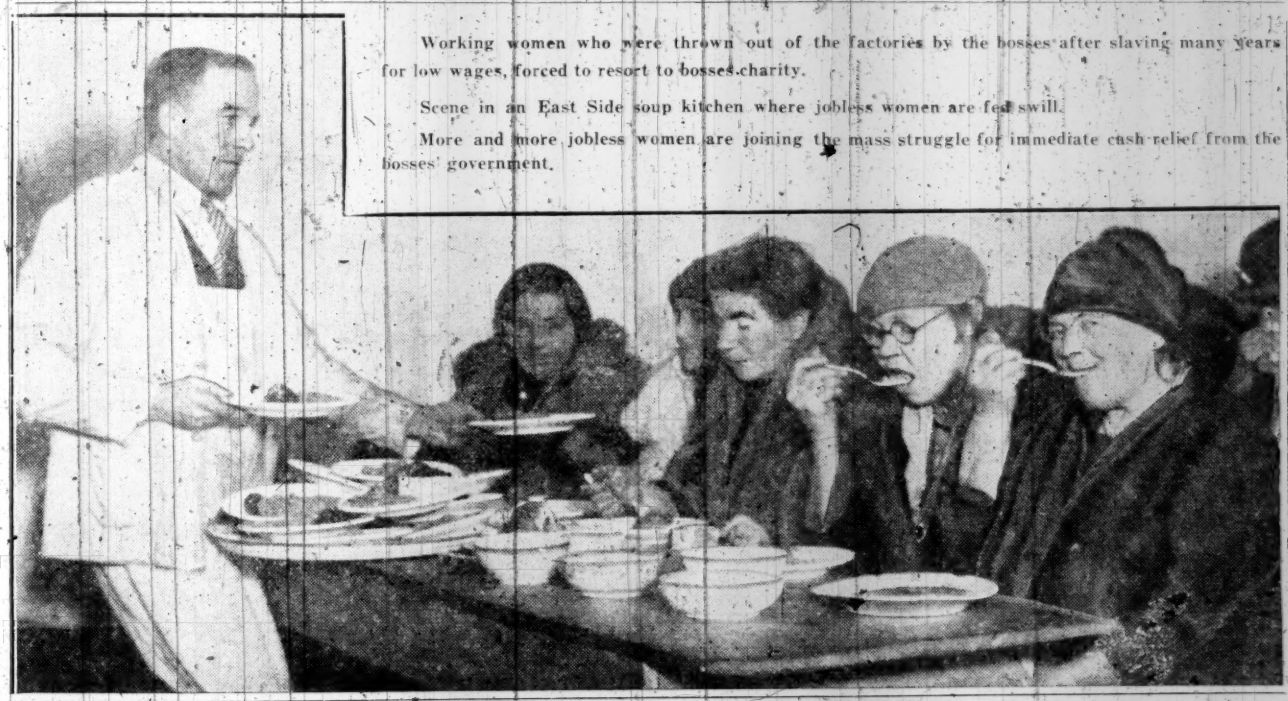
Women Wages Are Slashed



Working women who were thrown out of the factories by the bosses after slaving many years for low wages, forced to resort to bosses charity.

Scene in an East Side soup kitchen where jobless women are fed swill.

More and more jobless women are joining the mass struggle for immediate cash relief from the bosses' government.

On left, the nine Negro boys who were hurriedly framed up and speeded to their death in the lynch spirit of the southern bosses. Read how the working women are rallying to their defense on the last page.

Negro women workers in a factory winding wire coils. Negro women workers receive the lowest pay, forced to work the longest hours and live in jim-crowed sections. Read stories of Negro working women lives in inside pages.

The bosses terror drive against the foreign born workers grows. Many working women and wives of these workers are the victims of this terror campaign. Photo above shows women in a family that is being deported.

The bosses are using the threat of deportation to keep workers from struggling against worsening conditions.

Working women and workers' wives, join in the fight to break thru this terror directed against you. Join in the struggle led by the Council for the Protection of the Foreign Born. Get your organization to get into the struggle against the persecution of the foreign born.

Now Down to Hunger Point All Over U.S.

Wages as low as three dollars for a full time week are paid to women textile workers in Massachusetts mills, the state department of labor and industries admits. Rates of $5, $6, and $7 for a full time week are common where before the women workers were getting $10, $12, and $14 a week.

In New York, wage rates have been sharply cut, according to a statement by the division of women in industry. Where previously a factory worker in New York City was paid $12 a week while learning the job, now she is taken on at piece work rate, and she must learn the work at her own expense. One girl, earning 65 cents and 50 cents a day, averaged only $8 per week after she had worked for six months. A large chain of restaurants which formerly paid waitresses ten dollars a week, is now paying $6.

Cuts ranging from ten per cent to fifty per cent are reported from every industrial center in United States, and women workers get the worst of it, since rates for women are anyway, from one-third to one-half less than for men workers. In countless families where the main wage earner has been unemployed for months, a woman or young girl has become the chief bread winner. Now the earnings of these women bread winners are cut to the bone.

Strike Against Cuts

But in many centers workers are resisting the cuts. At Collinsville, Ill., more than five hundred girls employed by the Forest City Dress Manufacturing Company are now on strike against a wage that gets them as low as six cents an hour. This is the result of repeated reductions that started in September, 1930. Girls were forced to work from seven a. m. till 9 p. m., with half an hour for lunch and half an hour for supper. For making 24 dresses the girls were paid $1.40, but these dresses sell at retail for $9.98 a dress.

At Lawrence, Mass., in the curtain department of the Pacific Mill's print works, the entire department where only the women are employed, went on strike against a wage cut of from 25 per cent to 50 per cent. Under the leadership of the National Textile Workers Union, the Pacific Mill workers have succeeded in stopping one lay-off after another in the past six months. They have shown what mass resistance can accomplish.

WORKING WOMEN, ORGANIZE AND FIGHT AGAINST WAGE-CUTS, UNEMPLOYMENT — JOIN THE UNEMPLOYED BRANCHES — DEMAND UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE.

Negro Working Women Driven at the Lowest Wages for Longest Hours at Dirtiest Work

Great Need to Draw In East Side Women For Relief Fight

Mothers Forced to Go Beg in Streets

By JACK GELLER

NEW YORK.—In the last week I have been stopped by three American women not the ordinary pan-handling kind, but mothers of families asking for assistance. This happened between 14th Street and up. I have the following proposals:

1. That the Party and the T. U. U. L. and Unemployed Councils be mobilized to canvass the East Side especially among American elements. The Unemployed Councils because of their composition, cannot find out the true conditions that exist in the homes of work-employed Councils lack women in their ranks, therefore, it is neing women and mothers. The Uncessary that the women workers and sympathizers shall be drawn into the mass canvass and in this manner territorial councils shall be established.

Need To Draw In Women

Also it has been the experience of the Unemployed Councils that this is their main shortcoming. Unless we do this we shall not be able to build territorial councils which is part of our plan of work. We find that when the unemployed workers in the Unemployed Councils canvass the mothers and working women they have not the confidence and question the sincerity and ability to get results. Therefore, unless the working women take a lead in this work and learn the true conditions and from this experience we can create demands that will be concrete and draw them into the revolutionary organizations.

Why don't we get in touch with the women and children on the bread lines. The shortcomings on the part of the Party, that we have Red Sundays but do not build any mass organizations. There are thousands of families that live on the East Side. If we use proper methods of planned work, we will be able to get good results. Unless the Party tries to straighten out this shortcoming we will not be able to get results to give a lasting effect. This will help to build up the Working Woman, the official organ of the working women of the Communist Party.

GIRLS GET LESS THAN $13.75 A WEEK

In Massachusetts where the capitalists boast of "good" labor conditions, there is supposedly a minimum wage law. The minimum wage commission ruled that in Fall River and New Bedford the minimum wage for women was now $13.75. Even this small amount was refused by four companies—the Durfee Mills, Fall River; the Monarch Wash Suit Co., New Bedford; Harwood Underwear Corp., New Bedford, and Lincoln Shirt Co., New Bedford.

May Day Greetings from

CHICAGO WORKERS

S. Willis	V. Visheine
H. Past	P. Kapokiene
L. Andrulis	P. Matunien
M. Zabratis	A. R.
A. Jakiene	

Starvation Stalks the Coal Fields

A miner's family in a West Pennsylvania mining camp receiving food supplies that they forced from the authorities by their mass protest and action. Illinois miners women are active in the state hunger march.

Eastern Women Conference Held in New York, May 23-24

Comrades engaged in work from Boston, Philadelphia, New Jersey, Connecticut and New York, were among the delegates to the Eastern Conference. 63 delegates were present, 30 shop workers, 5 office workers, 4 nurses, 1 teacher, 5 functionaries, members of the National and District Women's Departments and 18 housewives.

Comrade Alpi addressed the conference in the name of the Central Committee, stressing the need of grater attention towards work in the shops, among women workers and the need for new forms and methods of work and that it is not only the task of the women comrades but the task of the Party as a whole. Followed by reports:

Damon—On the role of women in industry, the tasks and the immediate issues before the Conference—namely, mobilizing the masses of women for struggle against wage-cuts, unemployment, high cost of living, the Scottsboro campaign, paign, the Defense of the Soviet Union.

Drew—On the Working Woman

Wortis—On Trade Union Work.

Lyons—On the Shop Delegates Conference that will be held by the Women's Department of the T.U.U.L.

Poyntz—On the Defense of the Soviet Union.

At this conference we discussed the role of women in industry today and how we can best draw them into the revolutionary trade

(Continued on page 5)

Women Air Corps and Conscription of Women Workers in War, Boss War Plan

As never before, women are being drawn into the vast war preparations of Wall St.

Schemes for drawing women into the military machine, for drafting them for industry during war, for throttling their protests by pacifism, all have been feverishly and eagerly worked up in the past few months by the bosses.

* * *

Organize Women Air Corps

WASHINGTON, D. C. — Early last month a group of bourgeois women air pilots organized the Betsy Ross Corps under the direct auspices of the naval department.

The purpose of the organization as set forth by Mrs. Opal Kunz, the organizer, is:

"to serve the country in time of national emergency by piloting ambulance and auxiliary airplanes in order to relieve male pilots for combatant duty."

Militarists praised the new war organization, and General Fechet, who was made honorary member, declared:

"I have the highest admiration for your work. The next war will develop a great burden which will fall first upon the airmen. You will relieve them of a great work. Ambulance work will be largely taken over by women.

"Women have exceeded men at golf and tennis and in other ventures. In future wars, superior women pilots will be developed. Women pilots will actually be in combat some day."

* * *

A hint as to the nature of the conscription that the Wall St. imperialists force on women workers during war was indicated in a talk made some time ago by General Ely, a noted capitalist butcher, of this city. He said:

"Women will play a greater part in future wars. Governments, including our own, have been studying use of women in war. Woman power will in instances, supplant and in other cases supplant man power in war.

"Utilization of women in war will grow, in final anlysis, out of a new conception of war making, born during the last war. The struggle was so gigantic for countries involved, that the war-making becomes the national industry."

* * *

The Poison of Pacifism

Numerous women bourgeois pacifist organizations are active aiding the bosses' war preparations. Especially active are the Women's League for Peace and Conciliation, and various like sounding organizations, and the bourgeois pacifist, Mrs. Catt.

Knowing the opposition to imperialist war in the ranks of the working women, Mrs. Catt tries to hide the real issue.

"War is a man's war," says Mrs. Catt, "and women can stop it."

War is being prepared by bosses and bankers, the bourgeois women, and the officers of the Women's Trade Union League are with all of them. It is not a man versus woman question, as Mrs. Catt attempts to mislead the women. It is a question of workers, including women workers, against the bosses, including their women.

The pacifists have as their aim to throttle the revolutionary struggle against war by utopian proposals, and hailing "peace conferences" as ending war, whereas they but prepare it.

* * *

The danger and horrors of imperialist slaughter is alive for the working women. It can be fought by revolutionary means only; by strong organization of the revolutionary unions; rejection of the bourgeois women's pacifism, and fight against the capitalist system that is the cause of the world slaughters.

2,000,000 Negro Working Women Do Dirtiest Work At Lowest Pay, Long Hrs.

Negro and White Working Women, Organize To Fight for Decent Conditions

Sybil Patterson, sister of Haywood Patterson, one of the nine Negro boys in the Scottsboro case, works in the house of a coal yard boss, two days a week, and gets $1.50 a day or about 15 cents an hour.

She is one of 2,000,000 Negro women workers in the United States — 2,000,000 unorganized Negro women working on farms, in mills and shops, or serving the rich. Nearly a million are in "domestic and personal service," over half a million are farm laborers, and the rest are in tobacco factories, textile mills, laundries, and clothing plants, always forced to do the dirtiest, dustiest, heaviest work for the longest hours, at lowest wages.

How little they earn is admitted by the United States Women's Bureau in studies of Negro women in fifteen states, giving the median weekly earnings in different occupations. "Median" earnings mean that one-half the women were earning LESS than the amount listed: Tobacco bunchers, $1.85; boxers and craters, $3.75; chicken pickers, $7.75; oyster chuckers, $11.50; tobacco twisters, $12.60; tobacco feeders, $14.00.

White women workers earn little enough, as we well know, but Negro women earn far less. The striking difference is clearly seen in the following statements:

In Florida, for white woman workers the median earnings were $15 a week, but for Negro women, less than half as much—only $6.65.

Less than $10 Weekly

State	Negro	White
	Per Cent	
Georgia	30	21
Missouri	81	27
Tennessee	85	41

Less than $5 Weekly

State	Negro	White
	Per Cent	
Georgia	35	10
Missouri	50	27
Tennessee	28	12

These exploited Negro women workers throughout the South and North too, have been aroused during this past month by the Scottsboro case, to see what mass organization can accomplish. All workers together, Negro and white, men and women, unite in solidarity to demand higher wages, the 1-hour day, and unemployment insurance of $15 a week for each single toiler, with five dollars additional for each dependent.

Prostitution and Low Wage Go Hand In Hand in South

New Orleans Reported to Be Second to Buenos Aires

NEW ORLEANS, La. —The reported statement of the League of Nations Commission on white slavery, that New Orleans is second only to Buenos Aires in the traffic of women of the "oldest profession" can readily be believed when investigating the wages and working conditions of girls here.

In fact, with the exception of gambling, prostitution seems to be the main industry.

Since there is practically no form of organization, wages are down to the lowest level. Girls in cafes get from $3, $5, and $10 per week and in laundries, factories, etc. the conditions are the same. In the needle trades conditions are almost similar. This state of affairs is combined with a city administration that can be compared to that of Chicago.

In the last elections all the dirt came out. It was charged that one administration that had openly rented the red light district, had stationed a cop to collect one dollar every morning from each of the girls who existed there.

However, the graft and corruption did not remain among the lower ratings only. A regular group of shyster lawyers existed, making a good thing out of fixing the cases of any of the women who had been caught in the city administration machine. From the top to the bottom the rottenness of the whole administration is, according to reports, no different today.

Organize Grievance Committees in your shop. The Working Woman will help you. Write to us of your problems.

Pass this paper to your shop mate after you finish reading it. Get new subscribers.

Bourgeois Women's Club Feed Old Food To the Waitresses

Girls Work All Kinds Of Hours for Low Pay in Oakland

Oakland, Cal.

Editor Working Woman:

At the Women's Athletic Club, one of the richest clubs in Oakland, where the cream of society come to have a good time, we, the food workers, about eight waitresses regularly employed, together with about thirty odd club help, have to eat hash and spoiled grub.

Good food, though it may be left over, is kept until it turns sour and then is dumped into the garbage can. Cakes, breads, chicken, biscuits, and roasts, are dumped in the garbage can daily. Salad and that sort of food is fed to us, that is made the day before, and which remains left over. What is left over the same day is too good for us, and is purposely kept until the next day to feed us.

At special dinners given here, they get from three to twenty extra waitresses, according to the size of dinner given. The dinner hour girls are supposed to work three hours getting $1.75, but they work at least four hours and sometimes more. The club management charges the dinner host $2.50 for each additional waitress hired. As they pay only $1.75 to the waitresses, they make 75 cents each per waitress profit.

Forced to Live in Hovels

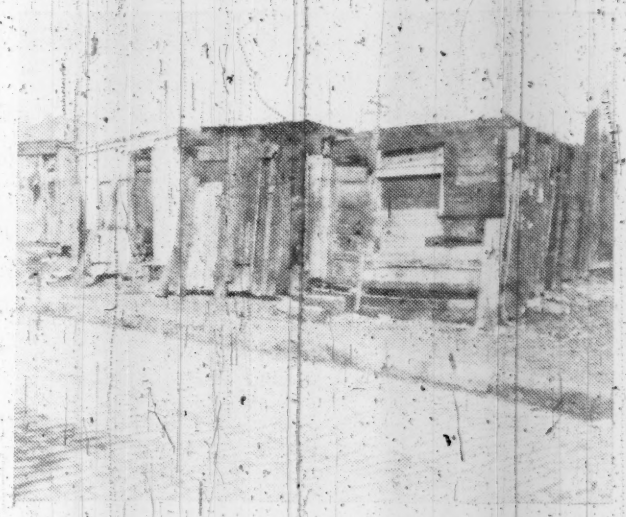


Photo shows type of houses Negro families are forced to live in after slaving long hours in the field and factory.

Girls Work Ten Hours Daily

We regular girls get $65 a month wages and our meals. We work all kinds of hours. Because our pay is monthly, this does not come in the minimum wage and hour law scale in California. Therefore, we are forced to work many more hours than eight hours daily. We work at times ten, and during the banquets, even longer hours.

With such rotten scanty food as we are permitted to eat, and working on our feet such long hours, should bring us to our senses, and make us organize ourselves.

We must stand together in this, the regular girls as well as the extra help, as we are all exploited badly. The richer the house is, the more exploitation is done, but it is done so cunningly, as for example, this club, which pays us monthly, and the check up on the hours is impossible by the labor commissioner, although we know that they are never over anxious to do any checking up.

We should demand better conditions. Stand together with other food workers and organize!

—Food Worker.

Slaved at Paris Garter, Now Thrown Out on Streets to Starve; More Wages Cut

White Goods Working Girl Wages Down to $8 a Week in Chicago

(By a Woman Worker Correspondent)

Chicago, Ill.

I lost my job a month ago; the money I had saved went, and being alone in the world, had no one to look forward to. I called on the Salvation Army for a little to eat and my room rent. All right; a lady came to see me with a paper as large as the sheet of a newspaper. My name, age, father's name, mother's name, where I was born, how old I was, if I am married, the places I worked, how much I made at these places. Well, all of this and more too, were taken down, and I have not heard from them and never expect to, but had I not got a job in the meantime, I would have starved to death.

That's the wonderful Salvation Army, the people who preach the word of god, and taking from people to live in the best of everything themselves, and some more graters like them.

That's all they are. Here is a place I worked at about 2 months ago. It is called A. Stein and Co., better known to the world as the Paris Garter, and the best that I can say for it is that it is a slave driving place, and inside it is a city of its own. The help slaves in the factory work their finger nails off and at the end of the week they have these sales talks for the help.

There is a restaurant right in the building and the bosses are helping their slaves. Right in the building the help eats in the dining room fitted with white tables and chairs. The dining room for the boss and office help is fitted with nice dinner sets. The foreladies talk to the girls working under them as if they were talking to a bunch of wild beasts.

They will not give you a chance and in this factory the inspectors have a permit for nothing more or less than children to work under 16 years of age. And if there is no work for the girls you are sitting around there and they keep you there if you stay there all day.

And if you want to go out you will have to get a pass from the forelady and turn it in at the office before you go out. I have never been in a penitentiary in my life, but I have heard a lot of them and I think this factory and the penitentiary are about the same. They have what you call suggestion boxes in every step and it is their will for the help to do the suggesting.

Here is another place, F. Stern, at 307 Van Buren St., a factory of fancy white goods. They also have a lot of help working for them and conditions are getting so bad for the old girls, it was impossible to make a living there.

Cuts on prices were getting lower and lower. And old girls were compelled to leave, so at the present time the help he has now on power machines are golored help and their wages amount to $8 and $9.50 a week.

On that amount of money it is impossible for a single girl to get along, after paying $8 a week for room and board, she has one dollar to get her clothes with. How can this be done, fellow workers, and it will not be done until the fellow workers will come closer together.

Landlord-Boss Robs Negroes

Cheats Worker Who Works for Him

After being out of work for a half year and in arrears with our rent for 8 months, our landlord offered my husband work painting in his appartments at $4 a day, 5 day a week. But instead of giving him his wages he kept the whole amount every week until the eight months arrears were settled. When my husband protested, he threatened eviction. Our rent is $32.00 a month for four dark rooms, 2 of which have no windows. First, they shove all of us colored people together and then they force us to pay exorbitant rents, for miserable holes.

The charities in Brooklyn were helping us at this time but they didn't pay our rent. They gave us only $11.00 a week to feed my husband, me and 9 children, $1 a week for a person. They said they were giving us "extra nourishment" because they added on 4 quarts of milk.

The doctor scared them when he told them 4 of my children could get T. B. because they were so much under weight. One of my boys is 19 lbs. under weight.

Now our rent is all paid up, so they don't give us any more relief. The landlord takes off this months rent every pay day, and we must feed the family on the rest. The charities say they can't help us because my husband is working full time.

The charity workers say the Negros have too many children, that we don't know how to raise our children, that our bodies are not as good as white bodies—and the white boss gives us only $20 a week and tells us how to spend it.

COLORED WOMEN
FROM BROOKLYN.

Ohio Negro Women Active in State Hunger March

By ROSE BURT

CLEVELAND, O. — During the signature drive we met Comrade Mary Talib, a colored working woman who lives at 2390 E. 49th St.

Her story was the same as most workers in her neighborhood, one year of unemployment, hunger and misery for herself and family. At that time she never heard of the Unemployed Council with its fighting program of organization for all workers, black and white.

Against the wishes of her family and neighbors, she joined the Unemployed Council, and became an active member organizing the workers.

On Jan. 5 she marched with her torn shoes and thin clothing to the city hall in the rain, sleet, and intense cold, declaring that she was ready for the police to fight unto death if necessary, in the fight for unemployment social insurance. She was one of the delegates to the city council.

She was the delegate to go to Washington when her accident happened. On the way to Foster's meeting, where she was to speak — an automobile hit her, and her hip and leg were broken. She was trundled from one hospital to the other, until finally she was taken in to the Mt. Sinai hospital.

She saw what attention an unemployed working woman gets. Six or seven times she was taken to the operating room to have a cast put on her, and then taken back to her room because she was unable to pay. Her attendants told her they could not do anything.

She was scolded in front of the other workers when they gave her a seventy-five cent crutch to use, telling her that she had cost them enough already. She came from the hospital more determined than ever to fight for the working class —and as soon as she could hobble, she came to the Council.

She went to John Hay school, and asked them to give her boy free lunch, and they told her they could not do any such thing.

All right, then I'll get my Unemployed Council to fight with me. The next day her boy got free lunch. She is now organizing her neighbors to elect one of our colored workers for the City Council, Comrade Pinkney.

Write about food costs, rents in your city—We will print your story next month.

Illegal Overtime Is Forced on Women

N. Y. Bosses Own Law Means Nothing

NEW YORK. — That illegal overtime work is increasing is admitted by Frances Perkins, New York state labor commissioner, in discussing the unemployment situation. In the first three months of 1931 there were 1,121 orders issued by the state department in an effort to stop overtime violations of the law.

These orders affected over 7,000 women and young workers, many of whom were forced to work seven day a week.

Workers know that only a small part of the illegal overtime work ever reaches the attention of the state officials.

Lot of Women in Birmingham, Ala.

Forced to Work Long Hours, Low Wages

Birmingham, Ala.

Dear Comrade:

Here is just a few short pieces about my home town which I hope you will help build up our paper.

I have a so called job, to go to work at seven o'clock and work to two o'clock, for four dollars a week, —and this woman says poor white people and Negroes try to live always above their wages, wearing silk stockings and trying to ride in cars instead of walking. But she has everything her heart can wish for. Let's fight comrades, don't starve.

My next door neighbor who is very delicate, has to work 12 hours a day for seven dollars a week. The woman she works for carries her to the doctor and then after they come back they tell her to do extra work. Isn't she a kind hearted brute?

If you get sick and have to get a doctor try to send in your sick claims. The Tennessee National and the Southern both are the one company. The doctor will turn your claim down, saying that you are not sick, but "gold bricking," just backing the company. He is the bosses' tool and also the bosses' fool.

Will write some more next week. We had a meeting on Monday nite and gave a lecture to eighteen women. Your paper was of great help, but all of my mail has been torn open.

—E. M.

WORKING WOMEN WAGE WINNING FIGHT ON HIGH COSTS MEAT, BREAD

Middle Village Women Beat Down Costs of Bread in Big Fight

WORKING CLASS HOUSEWIVES HAVE WON ANOTHER VICTORY! THIS TIME IT HAPPENED IN THE MIDDLE VILLAGE ECTION OF NEW YORK GITY. ONE THOUSAND WOMEN LED BY THE UNITED COUNCIL OF WORKING CLASS Housewives have completely routed the butchers and bakers in their neighborhood. Butchers will no longer get exorbitant prices for meat in Middle Village. Lamb chops that used to cost 60 cents a pound now sell for 39 cents and steak dropped from 55 cents to 30 cents a pound.

How They Did It

Butchers now have to take 10 cents and 12 cents a pound less for their chickens if they want to sell them to the women in Middle Village.

The women led by Council 14 and other women's organizations banded together and decided that they would not buy meat and poultry until it was cheaper. For a week the diet of their families consisted of vegetabls and fish. Now meat is back on the table—at reduced prices.

Meetings in the neighborhood were frequent and members of the Council visited from house to house organizing the women against the outrageous prices they were paying. They won quick sympathy and the whole neighborhood was roused against lining the pockets of the neighborhood tradesmen.

Early in the morning—sometimes at 3 a. m.—these women fighters were on the picket line. The rabbis tried to coax them away by saying that their leaders were a bunch of reds. "But," cried the women, "they are on the picket line fighting for us and we are with them." One woman was badly beaten by the wife of a baker; two were arrested, but, undaunted, they continued their fight. The women who did not know about the strike because they phoned their orders to the butchers were visited. They immediately refused to accept the meat sent them when the heard about the strike. Butchers were soon so overloaded with chops and loins and legs and steaks that they realized that the housewives meant business and that meant no business for them. One butcher who settled immediately was so busy filling orders that he had to hire extra help.

Here is the agreement drawn up with one of the butchers in Middle Village.

SETTLEMENT

It is agreed between the Strike Committee consisting of the Council 14 of Working Class Women and the Ladies Society of Middle Village and ABRAHAM SCHREIBER, the owner of Butcher shop located at 26 Wayne St., that he will sell his meats at the following prices:

STEAK	8.39 a lb.
LAMB CHOPS	.39 a lb.
MEAT	.27 a lb.
CUTLETS	.39 a lb.
VEAL BREAST	.26 a lb.
LAMB MEAT	.16 a lb.
LIVER	.41 a lb.

The meat will be of the best quality and on this ground the Strike Committee declares that the strike with Mr. Schreiber is settled and the women can buy there.

Signed:
ABRAHAM SCHREIBER
SADIE GOODMAN
SYLVIA GORELECK

Bakers Also Forced to Sell Cheaper

Of course, the working women in Middle Village were not content to win cheaper meat and still pay outrageous prices for the bread and rolls that they have to buy for their families. Pointing to the wheat surpluses we read so much about in the papers, they quickly reduced prices in one of the three bakeries against which they were on strike. In 24 hours the Morton Avenue Bakery cut rolls from 24 to 17 cents a dozen and bread from 9 to 7 cents a loaf.

This was a glorious victory for working women. In addition to the bakers seven butchers and two poultry dealers were forced to yield to the demands of these housewives. This is the third major fight of housewives in various parts of the country waged against the high cost of living.

WORKING WOMAN, how much do you pay for meat? For bread? For milk? What have you done to lower living costs in your town? Don't let your butcher or your baker fool you by pointing to small reductions in some commodities, BECAUSE wheat has never been cheaper and wholesale prices have gone down with a bang. Make your on all foods. The women in grocer follow with lower prices Middle Village have made butchers and bakers cut their prices. Let's do the same all over the country.

Flour Racketeers, A. F. L. Misleaders, Bosses Keep Up High Price of Flour

KILLERS, SLUGGERS, REPUBLICAN AND DEMOCRATIC POLITICIANS AND THE AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR ARE ALL TIED TOGETHER IN A BIG FLOUR RACKET IN NEW YORK CITY.

An ex-prize fighter named Richter and a fellow named Matthew Cantwell whose police record contains charges of homicide, petty larceny, grand larceny, and burglary are at the head of this racket which is making workers pay high prices for bread.

THE INSIDE STORY

This is how it started. About two years ago Richter painted a pretty picture to the flour jobbers in New York. He said that instead of getting the usual 25 cents profit on every barrel handled, they could get $1, if they all joined up with him. Of course these petty men jumped at the chance of boosting prices at the expense of the workers.

About 10,000,000 barrels of flour are made into bread, rolls, and cake in New York City every year. At $1 a barrel profit, these flour dealers would get $10,000,000 profit instead of $2,500,000. The workers who have to buy the flour and the bread were going to be soaked the $7,500,000.

With prices of wheat falling lower and lower, however, the flour racketeers couldn't make the high profits they thought they would. So some of them tried to get out of the racket, which cloaked itself in the high-sounding title of Credit Bureau. But it wasn't so easy to get out. The gunmen had the jobbers by the throat.

One jobber, named Jacob Green, did get out. A few days later five things entered his office and beat him up with iron bars. Green then told the whole story of the racket to the district attorney and a mass of other evidence was uncovered at the same time. The five prosecutors of whom three were Republicans and two were Democrats in high positions—including the district attorney in Brooklyn and Manhattan and the attorney general for the state—failed to do anything about it. This shows how the government is lined up with the gunmen.

Boost Prices of Bread

A case in which the racket put up prices occurred in Brooklyn. The Waldbaum Stores cut the price of their bread and rolls in half. Flour was so cheap that they still made a good profit. Wisotsky, the baker who sold these stores their bread was ordered to quit baking for the cut-price retailers. When he refused, his supply of flour was cut off. Dealer after Dealer refused to supply Wisotsky. He couldn't get any flour with which to bake the bread and the Waldbaum Stores couldn't get any bread to sell. So prices went up in the Waldbaum Stores and now they have plenty of bread. The racketeers won out and workers have to pay more for their bread, although wheat is cheaper than it has been in many years. Organized bread strikes all over the city and country should be the workers' answer to this flour racket. The women in Middle Village have done it, how about you?

A. F. OF L. HAS HAND IN, TOO

In both the case of Green and Wisotsky the American Federation of Labor misleaders stepped in. Not to help break the racket. Not to help lower the price of bread. But as henchmen of the racketeers.

When Green tried to break the racket, a strike was called and no flour was delivered to him. When Wisotsky tried to bake cheaper bread, a strike was called and no flour was delivered to him. In another case a strike was called against the United Flour Trucking Corp. The rank and file of the union were used as tools to help the gunmen in their extortions.

How to Live on 95 Cents a Week or Less Revealed by Waifs Who Thrive in Jungle of Junk Under Brooklyn Bridge

Living costs haven't gone down any for the rich, according to the clippings shown above. These clippings were all taken from capitalist papers and show how it is with the rich and how it is with the workers.

On the one hand, we see wealthy women, the wives of the bosses and politicians, wearing mink coats that cost $1,200 and spraying their fat bosoms with perfumes at $1,920 a bottle, to say nothing of the famous $100 corsets in which they encase themselves.

And on the other hand, eight girls are found living on bananas because they couldn't buy anything else and other jobless women kill themselves for lack of food and shelter and work. Thousands of workers cannot afford even the barest necessities.

Working women, let us put a stop to this. Let us have more bread strikes and more meat strikes. Let us refuse to buy milk at exorbitant prices. And let us continue to strike against wage cuts.

COMPANY-OWNED STORES JUST ROB THE WORKERS

Skin the Life out of Workers Just on the Edge of Starvation

The Kelley Creek Coal Company at Ward, West Virginia gets the workers going and coming. Miners are hired only a few days a week at the lowest wages. This is bad enough, but they are forced to trade at the company store where prices are higher than any other store in the town. Some of the miners were recently discharged for trading outside the company store. So the little money the miner gets is robbed from him by the coal owner.

Here are the prices at the company store and at Sheed's store—the store owned by a private grocer in town.

	Co. store	Private store
Lard, per lb.	18c	12 1-2
Coffee, cheapest	30	17
Coffee, better	55	30
Butter, cream'y	45	38
Butter, oleo	25	17
Bacon, white salt	25	16
Steak	40	25
Pork chops	30	22-25
Sugar, per lb.	9	2 lb., 14 c.
Corn meal, 10 lb.	35	30
Flour, 24 lb.	95	75
Beans, navy, lb.	10	4 lb., 25 c
Lettuce, lb.	25	15
Peaches, dried, lb	20	12 1-2
Prunes, dried, lb.	15	10
Apricots, dried,	25	19
Eggs, doz.	30	25
Potatoes, sack	45	40
Bread, twin	15	10
Milk, large can	10	3 for 25
Salmon, pink	25	15
Tomatoes	15-25	12 1-2—15

TOO MUCH COFFEE?

"Gimme a nickel, lady. I ain't had a thing to eat all day and I want a cup of coffee." All winter long, all over the country, poor, ill-clad figures made the same appeal. Workers with jobs handed over a nickel to the unemployed who tramped the streets, hungry and shivering—for whom there was no coffee and no jobs.

They didn't know, these hungry workers, that there was too much coffee. None of them ever suffered from an oversupply of that warming beverage. But there it is, right before your eyes in none other than the New York Times. "Purchases of coffee for destruction have already started in Brazil under the plan adopted by the Official States Council."—And they have the nerve to invite you to the big bonfire where workers can see millions of pounds of coffe beans go up in smoke and millions of cupfuls that workers could drink disappear forever.

Funny, isn't it. Too much coffee in Brazil and workers begging for a cup in America. Well, that's the object of capitalism—to make profits for the bosses, no matter how.

OPPIE—The Story of a Negro Chambermaid

By Renelda Gumbe

Every time I walk through the streets of Harlem, my eyes search constantly for Oppie. We used to work together last summer as chambermaids in the Y W H A institution in New York. There were six of us Negro maids there, but somehow Oppie and I were constantly together, being drawn to each other by the common bond of education (as the others were almost illiterate).

How shocked I was when Oppie told me she was a school teacher! This had been my first experience in the working world, and having just been graduated from a bourgeois high school, I could not believe that a school teacher could be doing such hard menial work. (I have met many others since then.) We worked from seven in the morning until eight thirty and nine at night with only a rest period of two hours in the afternoon. Day after day we made 37 beds each, mopped floors, dusted, tugged heavy linen hampers, set dining tables, served in the cafeteria, cleared away dirty dishes, cleaned the cafeteria, dried silver, put away dishes; all this for only $45 a month.

"These are fine wages," the house directress, Miss Lerner, used to tell us, "for remember you are getting your meals and sleeping quarters." She would not tell us that they gave us these sleeping quarters not through kindness, but only to make sure that we be on the job at seven o'clock sharp in the mornings.

How Oppie and I used to discuss these things at night in our little rooms, when we would pour out our innermost confidences to each other.

"I am only doing this temporarily," she would tell me, "until I save enough money for an A. B. at Columbia next year." Oppie was thirty-one, though she looked as young as I, who was sixteen. She used to call me baby and now breathlessly I hung upon her sisterly words of advice! Oppie disclosed to my innocent eyes a world that I had never thought to exist — a worker's world; one of poverty, hunger, unemployment, exploitation, strangled ambitions, sacrifices.

She herself hadn't started her education until she was nineteen years old, when she managed to secure a scolarship to Bordentown Institute, a capitalist institution for the misleading of Negro boys and girls in New Jersey. At five she had been orphaned and was rented by an orphanage as a sort of child slave — servant to a New Jersey farmer family. Her studiousness in Bordentown won for her a scholarship in Minors Teaching Institute in Washington, D. C. another jim crow institute.

"Life wasn't easy while in the school, not by a long shot," Oppie told me. Many of her school mates, boys and girls, even students from other schools, in order to continue their education, were forced to slave during the entire hot summers in hotels, on boats, on trains as pullman porters, as maids, waiters, stewards, serving hand and foot on the sons and daughters of the capitalists who spent their vacations in luxurious idleness.

Only we did not quite see it in that way. We did not blame our misery on the capitalist system, for we were not class conscious. We blamed the "white folks." (I have learned better since, believe me!)

No Place for Negro Children

The capitalists have no place for Negro teachers in their cities as they won't have them teach white children, so Oppie spent many months in the back woods of Georgia and South Carolina. Many tears I shed when she would relate (for the first time) to me of the plight of the Negro tenant farmers and the share croppers of this area.

Now by doing menial work herself during the year she had managed to grab a short summer session at Howard, another night session at New York City College, and now she was striving for an A. B. from Columbia. Compare this struggle with the children of our oppressors who have higher education forced upon them whether they want it or not.

Oppie took sick one day — too sick to carry heavy trays and to make endless beds, so Miss Lerner went down and fired her. Sick as she was, Oppie left. I have not seen her since.

As I said before I look steadily for her. Maybe she will read this article. I hope so, for I want her, and all other Negro women to know what I have since learned. That is:

Our sufferings, our extreme oppression and exploitation, jim crowism, segregation, legal lynching, is a part of the attack of the bosses upon the entire working class, white and Negro alike. The wealth, luxuries, the comforts of life are centered in the hands of only a few, the capitalists, the bosses, who keep the masses of workers in a state of constant slavery, subject to the miseries of starvation, wage cuts, unemployment, lynchings, frame-ups, torture — while they revel in over-abundance.

The only way that our conditions can be improved is by the complete unity of the entire working class for the smashing of this damnable system. We must break thru the efforts of our leaders like Dubois and others to segregate us from our fellow workers, to further exploit us.

We Negro women must join the Communist Party of the United States, the only Party of the working class, and march shoulder to shoulder with our white comrades under the banners of Communism, towards the establishment of another workers' government, where workers are actually free and equal, for

"Only in complete unity can there be strength."

German working women marching in a mass protest against jailing of militant women fighters against the unpopular anti-abortion law. The working class women are fighting for birth control measures that is opposed by the capitalist government.

Working Woman Drive

The Working Woman will start a new drive for subscriptions and increased bundle sales in July. Our aim is a modest one and must be successful. We must increase our circulation from 12,000 to 15,000 copies. Half (1,500) of the increased circulation must be new subscriptions and half (1,500) must come in new and increased bundle orders.

Every district must get busy at once and get the comrades to mobilize their forces for the drive.

Conference Mobilizes for Drive

The 63 delegates to the Eastern District Conference, who came from Boston, Philadelphia, Connecticut, New Jersey and New York City, spoke of the wide popularity of The Working Woman, and the success they had in making sales and getting subscriptions.

Comrade Williams of Section 5, Bronx, N. Y. City, said she was enthusiatic about the paper and that her section had sold 500 copies each month for the past two months. The men as well as the women comrades were pushing the paper and getting many new contacts and recruits through The Working Woman.

Comrade Anna Block of Section 8, Brooklyn, N. Y. City, had succeeded in getting five Negro girls to join the Communist Party after they had subscribed to The Working Woman, and in this way been drawn closer to the struggle. She wanted more articles that would interest the young girls. She said the flappers were beginning to understand what the present crisis meant to them and the part they must take in the coming struggles.

Comrade Clara Halpern of Boston, Mass., said she got 39 new subscribers in her district without very much effort on her part, and that new subscribers looked forward eagerly to receiving the paper each month.

Comrade Sophie Nochowitz of Philadelphia, Pa., reported that they had ordered 400 additional copies of the June issue. Committees of women and men comrades will go into the Negro neighborhoods with this special Negro edition and win new subscribers and readers for our paper, and new workers for the class struggle.

Comrade B. Salzberg of Paterson, N. J. told of her experiences in winning the silk workers as subscribers.

Eastern Women Conference is Held May 23-24, N. Y. C.

(Continued from page 2)

unions and the Communist Party, for the Defense of the Soviet Union—34 delegates besides reporters took part in the discussion.

On June 18th in New York City we will hold a Shop Delegates Conference under the auspices of the Women's department of the Trade Union Unity League. This conference will be a beginning towards periodic conferences to establish a center where the women workers can discuss their grievances and special problems. This conference will be a means of drawing and activizing the women workers into the Trade Union Unity League, a step towards building shop and grievance committees.

Many more organization points were discussed at the Eastern Conference, especially the Scottsboro campaign and the Working Woman.

MAY DAY GREETINGS RECEIVED TOO LATE FOR THE MAY DAY ISSUE

WORKING WOMEN WAGES SLASHED IN SEATTLE

(By a Woman Worker Correspondent)

SEATTLE, Wash. — Hours of work increase as wages slump and thousands are out of work — that is the situation of women workers in Seattle, and in the rest of the country too.

We are supposed to have an 8-hour law for women workers, except for emergency cases, but only certain kinds of work are affected, and even in factories where it is supposed to apply, women and young girls have to work overtime on a straight hour basis. In waitress and kitchen work and institutional work, the hours may be very short, one or two hours a day, which will just about pay one's carfare to and from work, or they may be very long.

"Good" straight eight-hour jobs in these lines are rare. In one club in Seattle, for instance, they employ girls to do both kitchen and upstairs work. They have to be ready for work at 6:30 in the morning and work till two in the afternoon; then two hours off, and work from four to eight, making eleven and one-half hours work, all for forty dollars a month, and whatever you have time to eat, whenever you are too tired to stand up.

Every now and then the girls at the agencies tell each other of some places where it is rumored that there may be work — but always it is just another false alarm and usually these places will tell the girls that they do not need any one right away, or that they will take on their job here when they need any, or even that they are still laying off.

Department stores are running so short handed that if any one should have a little money to spend, one has to wait a long time to get a clerk. Clerks and office workers who have worked for so many years are being laid off — while others are getting heavy wage cuts. In one credit firm's office, for instance, where has always paid from fifty dollars to eighty-five dollars or so, has cut the experienced girls who have worked for years to sixty-five dollars a month. They are very angry about it, and instead of thinking of organizing against it, they wish there were more chances of getting better jobs and leaving.

But other working women in Seattle are waking up to the fact that the drive to cut our wages must be met by organization, as we can not all just quit and look for better jobs, because there are not any.

Women who work in the laundries especially know they are going to have a fight on their hands this summer. All women workers and wives of workers must learn to get together and to organize for better conditions.

Working class mothers, don't let your husbands do all the thinking and acting for you, but get into this fight to help your families.

Working girls, don't let the bosses fool you into thinking that it is just because married women have to work that you are unemployed, and thus blame them instead of those who are responsible for this situation. Let's not allow ourselves to be divided from the rest of the workers by age or race or religion, but all work together in the unions of the Trade Union Unity League and in the Unemployed Councils.

—H. K.

May Day Greetings to the WORKING WOMAN
Chicago Federation of Working Women's Organizations

War--Brought to Your Door

HUNDREDS of bombing planes soaring over your heads! Air maneuvers! What did it mean to you?

Do you think they were "just practising"? Well, why didn't they practise before? Not until this year did the capitalist government have "air maneuvers." Why, then, did they have them for the first time? They are "practising" every day; but why bring these flying engines of death all at once over the great cities in demonstration?

The answer is that the air maneuvers were demonstrations against the workers, for the workers everywhere are talking "radical," speaking about Workers' Russia where unemployment has been abolished and there is no hunger. The capitalist government sent the army air fleet over the great cities to show the workers: "You had better not revolt! See how we could rain down bombs on you, if you try to rebel against starvation and set up a Soviet."

The air maneuvers were a threat of war — war against the workers! The War Department of the capitalist government has carefully worked out plans to make war upon the workers. Hoover is pretending to reduce expenses and cut down the number of U. S. army stations, but they are keeping those which are useful in making war on the workers. Read what the army officials said in the N. Y. Times of May 12:

> **"Stations near large cities, although some are small, will not be disturbed, according to officials. This would apply to such stations as Governor's Island in New York Harbor, which the War Department maintains principally to have troops available in any serious domestic disturbances."**

You women workers who think that the next war is going to be like the past wars have been, are very much mistaken. No longer will you be safe "at home," while "the front" will be a long way off! In the next war the front will be right at home! The war will be delivered to your doorstep! More, bombing planes will rain bombs upon the streets that contain poison gas that will seep into every house and every room — leaving only the dead bodies of women and children there!

Incendiary bombs, bombs that set fire to whole cities! Don't think you'll be safe, that women and children will be safe! All the destruction and death and savagery of the "front" will be suffered by civilian non-combatants, no matter where they may be.

This is war, women-workers! And war is an integral part of capitalism. War grows out of commerce, trade competition and rivalries for colonies turn into war just like milk turns into cheese. War is a part of capitalism, and all who talk about abolishing war are only deceiving you if they do not tell you how to abolish capitalism.

There would be a war between England and America tomorrow, only both governments are afraid of their own workers. The workers of America know that the Russian workers turned the war against Germany into a war against the capitalists and the czar. American capitalists fear that American workers will learn from the Soviet workers and will turn the next war into a civil war. That is the reason they hate the Soviet Government, why they lie about it and are trying to compromise for a time with England, France and so on, to make a united war on the Soviet.

But they also know that when they make war on the Soviet of workers and farmers, the First Workers' Republic, that the workers here in America may rebel against such a war. That, too, is a reason why the U. S. army air fleet was sent over the great cities to frighten the workers.

But the forces of a revolutionary working class overcomes all that! The czar could not hold down the masses, neither could the kaiser, with all his airplanes, flame-throwers and machine guns. Driven by misery, hunger, and the suffering of war, the toiling masses will rise up in spite of all the terror and lies of the capitalists! They will rise up in the spirit of sacrifice and make an end of war by making an end of capitalist rule!

On that day, and on every day from now till then, our place as women workers, will be on the side of the workers as a class, our class which is asked to die and starve and labor for capitalism, our class which must overthrow capitalism!

STARVATION IN COAL FIELDS

BARRASCKS, Pa. — Well, we don't get enough to eat and not any clothes to be got. You can not make enough. Thirty cents a ton is the pay. I have nine children to keep. They haven't any clothes or shoes to wear. It is terrible the way they are doing. The groceries are high. How do they expect us to live? There is nothing over at the Duncame mine.

A MINER'S WIFE.

FASCISTS ATTACK Y. C. L. MEMBER

The daughter of one of our most active agents. Comrade Doris Clay, was attacked by fascists on her way to a Young Communist League meeting in Los Angeles.

The fascists cut her legs with a safety razor blade when she refused to give them information regarding the meeting place, and the

The bosses are trying to terrorize the workers' children, and keep them from becoming active in the class struggle.

Wage Cuts—and Advice

By Burck

News Item: Dept. of Labor reports that the wages of women in many industries have been sharply cut.

I Worked At 7

By a Negro Working Woman

I was born on a plantation in Marion, South Carolina. There were eleven children, all of whom worked on the plantation. I started when I was seven years old. Some of my brothers and sisters started at four years of age to work.

We picked cotton from before light till after sunset. I remember when my father and mother worked for 25 cents, and we kids worked for 15 cents a day. We never stopped for the sun, no matter how hot — and it had to rain pretty hard before we would come in, and then we would not get paid, only for the time we worked. Two children died in their first year because of malnutrition.

At ten years of age I started to do housework for one dollar a week. The eleven of us brought in only ten dollars a week. In 1914 the crisis hit us and we had nothing to eat from October, 1914, to February, 1915. People were dying like hogs everywhere. That is when I first realized what it meant to go without food. There were not any jobs to be gotten anywhere. Saw mills started on February 15 and my father got a job.

I never went to the theatres because there weren't any for the colored. Colored children rarely went to the circus because they could not afford to. Many times we decided to go to the shwo (we would have to walk five miles to spend a few hours) but when Saturday came around we did not make enough to eat, much less to go to shows. In all my life I have never been to a theatre. I went to two side shows which cost me ten cents each, and I bought a picture in one which cost me nine cents. I have never been to a movie.

I have worked at house work ever since. I was ten years old. Two years ago, when I was thirty-two years of age, I was getting three dollars a week, for doing everything in the house (washing, cleaning, cooking, etc.). My husband was then making $15 a week; this supported nine of us. My daughter, who stayed south when I came north, was getting three dollars a week doing house work, until two months ago.

I was eight years old when I first went to school. But that paradise lasted only one month and nine days. I had to go to work to support the family. At fourteen I was married because my father would not take care of us. At sixteen I had my first child. But I worked to send her to school, and she went through the sixth grade until she was 15 years old, when she went to work for one dollar a day in the fields. (This high rate prevailed in the fields at this time.)

When I went North she remained behind to take care of my mother, and did house work for three dollars a week. Now she makes an average of ten dollars a week doing house work in Princeton, New Jersey, where we live. Before she came I had to do house work for these wages and take care of our seven children after work. My husband makes eighteen dollars a week, working six days in a big hotel.

We live in a terribly delapidated house which cost us $15 a month. I have to make my own clothes, and I am paying installments of three dollars a month on a sewing machine until I pay up $75. Just now I am behind in my payments. The house is behind the main street in this town where there are many restaurants and hotels which provide an excellent home for rats.

The house is cold in winter and hot in summer. The owner hasn't fixed anything since we moved in and you can hardly imagine how terrible it is.

Many times we haven't any food or clothes. When my husband was not working last year, we had to depend on charity for food. We can hardly get along and we get coal by charity. Some poor friends who are not much better off than we give us clothes.

We read the Working Woman every month and like it real well. My children read the Pioneer and they are getting their school mates to read it by selling it to them. Some of them are going on to National Youth Day. We are learning.

Mrs. George Montgomery.

NEW RISE IN PRICE OF BREAD

The Berlin Master Bakers announce a further rise in the price of bread to come into operation on Monday. It will be remembered that with much ado the government secured a reduction of two pfennig per loaf as the introduction of its much heralded "price drop" campaign.

This campaign has been an utter fiasco. The two pfennig reduction was made up after a few weeks, and a further increase of two pfennig now raises the price of bread to fifty pfennig or approximately sixpence a loaf. All that remains of the "price drop" campaign is the reduction in the price of labor power, thanks to the treachery of the social democratic leaders.

COMMUNIST DRIVE FOR CHEAPER BREAD

Upon learning that the government still holds 150,000 tons of rye, the Communist Reichstag's fraction filed a motion calling on the government to dispose of this rye supply to the cooperatives and bakeries at low rates on condition that a corresponding decrease in the price of the bread should follow.

WORKING CLOTHES FREE ONLY IN THE SOVIET UNION

The Council of People's Commissars of the Soviet Union has decided that those industrial workers whose jobs require special clothing shall be provided with them free of all cost.

There are two categories of the workers involved, those engaged in occupations dangerous to health, and those engaged in dirty work. These categories of workers will receive free working clothes, also including boots. The decision instructs all factories, etc. to provide dressing rooms and cupboards for the workers, and to make provisions for the repair, cleaning, and disinfecting of the working clothes.

WOMAN LEADER JOINS C. P.

The leader of the social democratic work amongst the women in the Chemnitz district (German Social Democratic Party), Gertrud Wollenweber, has joined the Communist Party.

She will publish a detailed statement justifying her action to her social democratic fellow workers. It is expected that other social democratic women workers will follow her example.

Support Daily Worker Drive

The Daily Worker has opened its drive to collect $35,000. This sum is necessary to make possible the further existence of the Daily. To be successful this Drive demands the energy, enthusiasm and the devotion of every revolutionist.

An economic crisis is shaking the capitalist world to its foundations. Unemployment, misery and starvation are shaking the confidence in capitalism of large masses of the workers. The rising structure of Socialism in the Soviet Union is replacing this confidence with confidence in the powers of the working class.

But in spite of all this capitalism is not abdicating. It fights every inch of the road. It fights with every means of government power at its disposal. It cuts wages. It clubs striking and demonstrating workers. It persecutes working class leaders. It lynches and intimidates the Negro masses. It arms for imperialist and for anti-Soviet war. It suppresses the revolutionary press. It attempts to crush all signs of opposition under the iron heel of its political dictatorship.

Under these conditions the call of our Daily Worker for help and the demand to organize for the $35,000 Drive must receive the immediate attention and enthusiastic response from every revolutionary worker. Every Communist must bring this call of the Daily Worker for help to the attention of the workers in his factory, work shop, mill or mine, as well as into the workers' organizations where he is a member. Every revolutionary union or working class organization must constitute itself into an auxiliary force for making the Daily Worker Drive a success.

In order to live, the Daily Worker must get every cent of the $35,000 proposed to be raised.

The question whether the Daily Worker shall live we answer with the shout: Long Live the Daily Worker!

Rush funds at once to the Daily Worker, 50 East 13th Street, New York City.

NEGRO CHILDREN IN SCHOOLS

By MARY ADAMS

Our school receives steady admission from the South. These children are almost without exception behind the children of the same age in school studies. In most cases they never catch up. We have had cases of boys of sixteen years who have never been to any school. At present we have a fourteen year old girl who is in a second year class. Children of ten and twelve who have to enter the classes of seven and eight year olds are the most frequent.

All these examples are living proof of the lack of educational opportunity for the colored children in the South.

City and county officials appreciate meager amounts for the jim crow schools with the result that schools are few and small and also poorly equipped. The school term is short, the teachers are badly trained and poorly paid. There are no attendance officers to enforce a compulsory schooling law, when there is one, to see that Negro children go to school.

Conditions in city schools are miserable because of overcrowding, part time, and run down plants. But the children of tenant farmers and share croppers fare much worse with a shorter school term, in some cases only three months. They get irregular and intermittent schooling. Being taken out of the school at sowing and planting seasons is unvaried.

When the lack of sufficient high schools and vocational schools, three shift in city schools are added, one realizes the reason for the abnormally high rate of illiteracy in the South.

FLAME-LIKE SHADIVA

A Story of Soviet Women

It was in a government assembly in golden Samarkand that I first saw Shadiva. Picture a long narrow hall, unimposing, the typical meeting hall of a small town, decorated in typical Asian manner with strings of tissue paper flags, festooned from wall to wall, and filled with Uzbeks in many-colored robes, padded against the sharp autumn weather. The Central Executive Committee of the Uzbek nation.

On the stage sat the Presidium, behind a long red table — a dozen or more Uzbeks in the usual gaudy gowns and plush squll caps. Among them was one woman,— Shadiva, — age at that time of twenty-two, with the naive, friendly smile of a fifteen year old girl. When she flitted about the hall in a mussed blue flannel blouse, with a green velvet cap above two long black curls and with high black boots to the knee, it was hard to believe the tales I was told of her past.

Shadiva was a miner's daughter in Fergana. According to local custom she was sold in marriage at the age of ten, to a middle aged man. She was violated before she was yet a woman. Shut in by the black veil, the "paranja," which covers a woman's face completely and makes of her a hideous walking pillar, Shadiva lived in the women's quarters of her husband's house, a tragic existence. When Russian women came, bringing tidings of women's freedom, she was one of the first converts.

Hear of New Freedom

Central Asia was the last spot in the Soviet Union to be touched by the new ways. Civil war and famine raged here long. It was followed by banditry from the hills. Yet in 1921-22, a few Russian women began to agitate with the native Uzbek women for the new freedom. There were no points of contact, no women's clubs, no mothers' consultations, no day nurseries. They began to hold little talks with a few veiled women, gradually earning their confidence. Yet by 1924 there were only ten unveiled women in the whole Uzbek nation. These went closely guarded against the assassination which was feared, and with reason, from the religious prejudices of outraged Mussulmen.

I saw Shadiva, there were already a hundred Mother and Baby Consultations in Central Asia, thirty-four women's club buildings, and twenty-six Women's "Red Corners." Silk filature mills had opened and women were applying for jobs. Schools had opened and the women, already wives and mothers in their teens, were leaving their homes to go to school.

So fast went the movement for women's freedom as soon as the first organizers arose from among the Uzbek women themselves. Shadiva was one of these, the best known of all. The Russian women taught her to read; they discovered and trained her capacity for eloquence; she became a spell binding speaker before great audiences of men and women. She was elected to the Central Executive Committee and to its presidium.

Her personal life also changed. With the help of her new Russian friends she got a divorce and remarried a youth of her own age, a modernist and Communist. Her former husband is also remarried, but they say that he has never ceased to regret the flame-like Shadiva.

Met Shadiva Again

Two days after the Samarkand meeting I again met Shadiva. In the "experimental cotton region of Past Dorgomsky, a score of villagers were celebrating "Cotton Day." Uzbek "dekkans," or peasants, to more than ten thousand — Uzbek women in small numbers, some veiled, some unveiled, crowded the village square. The women were mainly huddled on the ground around the red-draped tribune, turning their backs to the men.

Only twice in the long afternoon did those women rise to their feet, though the band played the "International" a score of more times. Once was when "Grandfaddy Ackun," beloved president — received a banner from a local collective farm. The other time was when Shadiva climbed to the tribune.

Then, swaying like a movement of the sea, the mass of women struggled to their feet, eyes uplifted in devotion. The younger women broke into cheers. Shadiva, the miner's daughter of Fergana, a woman like themselves, like them, sold in marriage at the age of ten, whose sufferings were like their sufferings. Shadiva, member now of the Presidium in the Uzbek government in Samarkand, — whose rise to power was a symbol of their own new-found freedom.

7-HR. DAY SOVIET TEXTILE WOMEN

Sverdlovsk, USSR.,
March 22, 1931.

Dear Comrades:

We women workers wish to get in touch with our American sisters in the U. S. A. There are about two thousand workers employed at our plant, most of them women, working hard for the successful fulfilment of our 5-Year Plan in four years.

We are working for ourselves, not for bosses, and firmly follow our Lenin's program. The work is being rushed, one section competes with another. There are 83 shock brigades in our plant.

Our salaries average fifty-five rubles a month, with a seven hour working day. Every fifth day we are free. For good work we are paid special premiums. Besides, every worker is entitled to pass his leave in one of our many sanatoriums and houses of rest. Before, under the czarist regime, 70 per cent of us were illiterate, but now everybody can read and write. All our children go to school, the little ones, from one to three years, are being cared for in the special nursing homes, provided with food, clothes, etc. Two hundred and fifty of us are members of the Communist Party, 39 have applied for membership after the International Women's Day.

Now, that's in short what's going on in our factory; any further questions will be readily and gladly answered.

Dear sisters, do not get discouraged. Fight wage cuts and the stagger system. We, from our side, promise you to rush our vast industrial plan, which will be a death blow to the rotting capitalism.

With heartiest greetings from the USSR.

Women Workers of the Lenin Textile Works, Swerdlovsk, Ural, USSR.

1. Trifonova.
2. Outanina.
3. Zinovieva.

Our Next Issue

Next month will be Mother Bloor's birthday. She will be 69 years old and 30 of these years she has spent in workers' struggles. Wherever workers have tried to better their miserable conditions, there has been Mother Bloor, her enthusiasm encouraging more and more workers in the fight against their bosses. First in the textile sections and now with the farmers in North Dakota, Mother Bloor has been an organizer whose enthusiasm is contagious. You will not want to miss the story of her remarkable, active life which will appear in next month's issue of THE WORKING WOMAN. Mother Bloor has also written a story herself for our next issue about a worker she has known—Annie Clemence. Don't miss it!

Next month is also important because we are going to start a drive for our paper. THE WORKING WOMAN, like most other working women, has very little to spend and that little is almost gone. Of course, we know that working women will not be able to get along without their paper, and so we ask you to help us. Please take especial notice, WORKING WOMAN agents and Women's Work directors, because you are our right hand and we are depending onn you.

And other working women, whoever you are and wherever you are, we need you and we are sure you need us. And if you want to help our campaign along before July first, we won't mind a bit. You can send us your subscription right now and you'll be sure to get our July issue with its stories and articles for working women.

HERE IS MY 50 CENTS — Please send me the WORKING WOMAN for one whole year.

NAME .....

CITY ..... STATE .....

May Day Greetings from
WORKERS OF BUFFALO, N. Y.

Jack Soiniren	Aino Wallen
Jas. Campbell	Eisie Flirveta
Chas. Paananen	Ottra Koti
Katri Rinne	Elve Walsmark
Emil Hill	Julia Goetz
Ruth Williams	Minnie Johnson
Franklin P. Brill	Hertzog
Ida Lahti	R. Hudeck
Anna Loschenko	Viena Maki
T. Rose	M. Kemp
Liisi Hirvonen	

Lithuanian Working Women's Alliance, Branch 68, Cliffside, N. J.

John Lassek	A. Griciuvernie
E. J. Flask	H. H.
J. Ruthonwelsi	M. Mazelius
F. Agortwo	A. Zaitz
George Sedaruk	

May Day Greetings
Lithuanian Working Women's Alliance, Branch 1
Brooklyn, N. Y.

Revolutionary Greetings from
THOMAS COLEMAN, Sr.
634 Garfield Ave., Detroit, Mich.

U. S. Deports Widow

The Capitalist press reports the deportation of Mrs. Weimer and her five children of Trinidad, N. Y. following the death of her husband as a "harsh fate." The capitalist press is covering up in such sentimental language the government's persecution of foreign born workers as part of the boss-planned attack against the working class.

Without provision after the death of her husband a worker unable to support her five children, forced to appeal to the city for relief, Mrs. Weimer is accused of illegal entry into this country, is called a "public charge," and is easily gotten rid of by deportation, in order to protect the profits of the bosses. The real charge here is that she is a member of the working class.

Workers can oppose such attacks only by uniting native and foreign born, white and negro, employed and unemployed, to fight against the persecution of foreign born workers and to demand adequate relief and unemployment insurance in this country for all workers.

Statement of the ownership, management, circulation, etc., required by the Act of Congress of August 24, 1912, of Working Women, published monthly at New York, N. Y., for October 1, 1931.

State of New York
County of New York

Before me, a notary public in and for the State and county aforesaid, personally appeared [illegible] who, having been duly sworn according to law, deposes and says that she is the editor of Working Women and that the following is, to the best of her knowledge and belief, a true statement of the ownership, management, etc., of the aforesaid publication, for the date shown in the above caption, required by the Act of August 24, 1912, as amended by the Act of March 3, 1933, embodied in section 411, Postal Laws and Regulations, printed on the reverse of this form, to wit:

1. That the publication editor, managing editor, and business manager are: Name of publisher, Communist Party, Inc., Box 87, Station D, New York City. Editor, Jean Talon, Box 87, Station D, New York City. Managing Editor, [illegible] New York City. Business manager, Caroline Hall, 50 E. 13th St., Box 87, New York City.

2. That the owner is: If owned by a corporation, the name and address must be stated and also immediately thereunder the names and addresses of stockholders owning or holding one percent or more of total amount of stock. If not owned by a corporation, the names and addresses of the individual owners must be given. If owned by a firm, company, or other unincorporated concern, its name and address, as well as those of each individual member, must be given. Communist Party, Inc., Box 87, 50 E. 13th St., New York City. Anita Brenner, [illegible] St., New York City. Charles Phillips, [illegible] St., New York City. Charles Ruthenberg, [illegible] St., New York City. Jay Lovestone, [illegible] St., New York City. Bertram D. Wolfe, [illegible] St., New York City. Jack Stachel, [illegible] St., New York City. Jules Lumer, [illegible] St., New York City. Jean Talon, [illegible] St., New York City. Caroline Hall, [illegible] St., New York City. Max Bedacht, [illegible] St., New York City. Alex Bittelman, [illegible] St., New York City. Alex Bittelman, [illegible] St., New York City. Alex Bittelman